

ARK:jsg010302/6711002CIP-3.AMD-3

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel all of the claims in the application without prejudice (i.e. cancel claims 1-5, 7-8, 10-27, 44 and 46-70).

Please insert the following new claims.

71. A method of treating a waste material containing gelatin comprising: •

(a) combining the waste material and a solvent for the gelatin under conditions sufficient to form a first liquid containing gelatin, said waste material containing at least one first component which can not effectively be separated from the first liquid into a non-solvent based layer;

(b) separating the first liquid into a solvent based layer containing the gelatin and said at least one first component and a non-solvent based layer; and

(c) treating the solvent based layer with a process which removes the first component from the solvent based layer to form a second liquid containing gelatin having a higher purity than the first liquid being at least substantially devoid of the first component.

72. The method of claim 1 wherein the first component is selected from oily type materials, particulates and combinations thereof having an affinity for the solvent.

73. The method of claim 71 wherein step (c) comprises treating the solvent based layer with a process selected from the group consisting of liquid:liquid centrifugation, sub micro/microfiltration, coalescers, and combinations thereof.

74. The method of 73 wherein step (c) comprises treating the solvent based layer with a tangential flow filter.

75. The method of claim 71 wherein step (c) is carried out at a temperature of from about 30 to 70°C.

76. The method of claim 75 wherein the solvent based layer is diluted at a dilution volume of up to 5 volumes of said solvent.

5 77. The method of claim 71 wherein the waste material contains oily type materials and particulates, step (c) comprising removing the oily type materials and particulates from the solvent based layer to form a filtrate and recycling the filtrate.

78. The method of claim 71 wherein the waste material contains oily type materials and particulates, step (c) comprising removing the oily type materials and particulates from the solvent based layer to form a filtrate and treating the filtrate to remove at least some of the solvent.

10 79. The method of claim 78 wherein the step of treating the filtrate comprises subjecting the filtrate to a process selected from the group consisting of vacuum distillation, diafiltration and short path distillation.

80. The method of claim 71 wherein the waste material contains a softening agent, said softening agent being separated into the second liquid.

15 81. The method of claim 80 wherein the softening agent is glycerin.

82. The method of claim 80 further comprising subjecting the second liquid to ultrafiltration to remove the softening agent therefrom.

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83. The method of claim 71 wherein the solvent is water.

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